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**THE PHILHARMONIC CONCERT.**

The Philharmonic Society opened its third season last night, with an exceedingly enjoyable and successful concert. This Society is one of the most desirable institutions in the Colony, and incidentally it is not yet entitled "Royal," a programme last night was excellently selected, and long his clear all through, and well carried out. It chanced if not only defects in the printing, which was done with some wretched red print stuff that had a dislike for the paper, and left it whenever a finger or handkerchief or dress touched it, so that the ladies looked as if they had been dipping their gloves in the soup-pot, and the men as if they had been in a sanguinary cat-fight. It was very vexing indeed.

The audience was just large enough to comfortably fill St. George's Hall, which by the courtesy of the Committee of St. Andrew's Hall will hold the decorations and electric lighting, but of thoughtfulness which was much appreciated. The Governor, as President of the Philharmonic, occupied the very foremost seat, for which he is to be pitied, as it is not pleasant to be quite so close to a strong orchestra. For the next concert it would be better to sacrifice a little seating accommodation rather than jam the front row so close to the conductor.

The concert commenced punctually at 9.15, and the audience was less punctual, and several ladies and gentlemen were objectionably thoughtless in their unpunctuality. We can well understand that some people find it difficult to keep an engagement, or to sit through, or to the twenty-first minutes; it is not everybody who enjoys even the most divine music sufficiently to forego an extra mouthful of dinner, or an extra fix of the curling-tons. Some enthusiasts would rather go on walking costume than miss the music through dressing; some would forfeit their dinner and coffee for the sake of being in time. As to not everybody has a soul, and two fearful hillbillies, worse than the generality of the ordinary concertgoers, were so soulless as to spoil the first, a doubly beautiful song, by marching off to the door in the centre of the room, and leaving the singing at the singer and the Governor and the seats where there was some room, and then as stolidly marching back, all in the middle of the song. The least these laggards could have done was to wait for the finish. It is an evil not prevalent, and I must be repressed possible. The next offenders in this direction I find themselves very much offended if they did the papers. If they will not read their news without having to be told, they must have some comment on the news; and if that is not enough, they must make a remark about the song in its progress, the least in common sense at school singer and audience, just like all our districts who are late for prayers in the morning. Or perhaps it would be useful to provide the ticket-taker with a laser, to pull people up when they have not more sense than this.

The first item, overture to *Zampa*, was played with great skill. The orchestra had an admirably trained; Mr. Bentley's name is sufficient guarantee for painstaking preparation and admirable execution. Mr. Bentley is a thorough musician, who lives for his art and puts his whole soul into it. What a happy knack of making others put their whole soul into the music, and that how he achieves such enchanting results, with the West Hill Band. If we mistake not, over half of the orchestra at last night's concert consisted of gifted men.

After the overture, Mrs. Dodwell sang "Call back," as well as she could amid interruptions from late-comers enough to put any singer to it is a lovely song, and Mrs. Dodwell sang it beautifully, and it is a shame not to give her a chance. Mr. Graud next gave a solo role, Handel's "Largo," with orchestral accompaniment, a most delicate performance, the more creditable in view of the fact that he has been so unfortunately busy with the French Consulate affairs both in Hongkong and Canton the last few days. Mr. Brow sang "Mélodie, Moiner Leben," in his best style and the orchestra brought the full of the programme to a close with Schubert's wonderful "Unfinished" Symphony. It is not much use trying to describe this; it was up to perfection.

The second part of the programme opened with the "Fest March" from Tannhäuser which was very well, though slightly inferior to the "Fest March" from Tannhäuser. Daily then sang "Light in Darkness," a splendid song, with magnificent contralto. Much to the pleasure of the audience, Mrs. Dearly repeated the verse in response to enthusiastic applause. Bentley played a clarinet solo, variations on Scottish airs, in which he showed that not very successful instrument at his best in the hands of a master. It was undoubtedly a fine performance, though for our own part we have no excuse for gymnastic exercises on "Banks of Sweet Afton," which is a fanciful sentimentalism that makes us dislike the idea of toying with sporting and skipping up and down the banks of a sad, appealing, despairing lament like—

How can ye sing, ye little birds,  
And I too was so full of care?  
Ye'll break my heart!

Mr. Van Nierop sang "An old love dream," a solo and piano accompaniment, which seemed somewhat too loud for the vocalist, though that might be the fault of the room; St. George's Hall is unfortunately unfortunate in the matter of its acoustics. The last item was the singing of the song, "The Last of the Summer," which was the most beautiful of all, though still good, and more passages than one, the performers did not well together, and some of the most effective phrasing in this exceptionally artistic composition were badly timed. However, it is well, on the whole, and we can easily forgive a slight lapse considering the general excellence of the playing.

**NEW BALMORAL GOLD MINING CO., LIMITED.**

The following is the report for presentation to shareholders at the third ordinary meeting to be held at the Company's offices, 38 and 40, Queen's Road Central, on Wednesday, the 8th September, at noon:—

The Shareholders of the New Balmoral Gold Mining Co., Limited:—

Gentlemen,—We beg to lay before you the report and statement of accounts for the year ending the 30th September last.

The sum of \$123,827.50 has been expended on mines, \$9,107.27 on the batteries, \$1,140.13 legal expenses in Hongkong and Australia, \$18,958.81 on salaries, management, stores, general expenses at the mines, or \$53,038.01 out of a total expenditure of \$87,775.95.

The gold won from crushing realized \$3,793.78 or a profit of \$2,932.90 has been made from the sale of the 4,000 22-carats in the Olivers Free-Mines Limited.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. James Cox, who offers himself for re-election.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,  
General Managers.

**CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA,  
AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.**

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and to take all such steps as they may deem expedient to obtain such an extension of the bank's powers, under its present charter, as will enable it to establish branch banks in places within which the bank can now establish agencies, any such extended charter or charters to contain such terms and provisions as the court may approve."

Sir Alfred Dent, K.C.M.G., seconded the resolution, which was agreed to *unanimously*.

Votes of thanks to the chairman and directors and to the officers and staff closed the proceedings.

**NOTANDA.**

CALENDAR.

**DECEMBER.**

*Meteorological means based on ten years' observations to 1895.*

Barometer .....	30.177
Thermometer .....	63.5
Humidity .....	65.0
Rainfall .....	1.21

TO-DAY.  
WEATHER REPORT

	On date at 10 a.m.	On date at 4 p.m.
Barometer .....	30.24	30.17
Thermometer .....	65	65
Humidity .....	63	64
Rainfall .....	.....	.....

TO-DAY.  
Day, 4th December

Chinese—11th of 11th moon of 83rd year of  
Kwoa-pai.  
Jewish—9th Kislev, 5668.  
Hobanmedan—9th Rajab, 1315.

Sun—Rises .....	6hr. 26min
Sits .....	5hr. 14min
High water—Morning .....	5hr. 36min
Afternoon .....	6hr. 18min
Low water—Morning .....	0hr. 16min
and 11hr. 19min.	

Carlyle born.

1841—First census of Hongkong taken; population 15,000.  
1889—Collision in the Lyceum Pass between the *Ancon* and *Kunghat*.  
TO-MORROW.  
Sunder, at Dundee.

(2nd'n Advent.)  
of 11th year of

Jewish—10th Kis'lev, 5668.  
 Mohammedan—10th Rajab, 1316.  
 Sun—Rises ..... 6hr. 27min..  
       Sets ..... 6hr. 14min..  
 High water—Morning ..... 7hr. Omin..  
               Afternoon ..... 6hr. 41min..  
 Low water—Morning ..... 1hr. 13min..  
                                     and moon.

Europeans killed at

1863—Soochow re-taken by the Imperialists  
under General Gordon.  
1870—Alex. Dumas died.  
1884—Loss of the s.s. *Kwantung* in the Kimpai  
Pass.

## ARCH SERVICE

*St. John's Cathedral* :—Communion, 7 a.m.,  
Matins, 11 a.m., Evensong, 5.45 p.m.  
*Roman Catholic Cathedral* :—Mass at 6 a.m.,  
7 a.m., 8 a.m. and 9.30 a.m. Benediction,  
5 p.m.  
*United Church* :—Services, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.  
*German Bethesda Church, West Point* :—  
Morning Service, 11 a.m.  
*St. Francis's Church, Wanchai* :—Mass (Chin),  
6 a.m. (Port) 7.30 a.m., Benediction, 5 p.m.  
*St. Joseph's Church, Garden Road* :—Morning  
Service (English), 9 a.m.  
*St. Anthony's Chapel, West Point* :—Mass, 8  
a.m.  
*Wesleyan Methodist Church* :—Services, 10.30  
a.m. and 5.45 p.m.  
*St. Peter's Seamen's Church* :—11 a.m. and  
6.30 p.m.

## SHIPPING AND MAIL NEWS.

MAILS DUE :  
 French (*Saghalien*) to-morrow..  
 Australian (*Mermuir*) to-morrow..  
 American (*Peru*) 7th inst..  
 Tacoma (*Olympia*) 10th inst..  
 American (*Coptic*) 15th inst..  
 American (*City of Rio de Janeiro*) 23th inst..

**Pacific Railway**

**SHIPPING RETURNS.**  
From 8 p.m. yesterday to 8 p.m. to-day.

... ..  
... ..

Shanghai	11	11	Shanghai
Manila	11	11	Manila
Taiwanf.o	11	11	Taiwanf.o
Penarth	11	11	Penarth
Macao	11	11	Macao
guanoat	11	11	guanoat

Aggregating 7,704 tons register.

...steamer, for

<i>Mathilde</i> .....	19	21	Halong
<i>Chusam</i> .....	19	31	Kobe
<i>Aik</i> .....	19	31	Halong
<i>Tamun</i> .....	19	19	Tamun
<i>Imarvalda</i> .....	19	21	Manila
<i>Yaemson</i> .....	19	17	Shanghai
<i>Madmir</i> .....	transport	19	Vladivostok
<i>Kliner Coburn</i> .....	ship	19	New York

Aggregating 11,430 tons register.

U.S.) ... at Kov

West York ..... Cosmopolitan ..  
 SWATOW.  
 Arrivals. from Agents.  
 2 Sables Richmrs. H'kong..... B. & Co

Hong Kong,  
Amoy.

3	Hothow .....	Shanghai...	B. & S.
	Departures .....	for	Agents.
2	Sadine Rickmers .....	Amoy...	B. & Co.
2	Fairbank .....	Singapore...	B. & Co.
2	H.M.S. Algernine .....	Amoy	
2	H.M.S. Alacrity .....	Hongkong	
3	Hallong .....	Amoy...	J. M. & Co.
3	Thales .....	Hongkong...	J. M. & Co.
3	Hothow .....	Hongkong...	B. & S.
3	Whamoa .....	Shanghai...	B. & S.

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**SCOTT'S Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil** with  
 hypophosphites, is a combination of two most  
 palatable remedies, in a palatable and easily  
 digestible form having great healing and strength-  
 ening properties, most valuable in the following  
 and wasting diseases. Read the following:  
 "I have found Scott's Emulsion of great  
 benefit in the treatment of phthisical and  
 other profluvial diseases. It is extremely palatable  
 and does not upset the stomach—thus removing  
 a great difficulty experienced in the administra-  
 tion of the oil." **P. KERN, M.D.,**  
 Surgeon, St. Vincent's Hospital, Dublin. Any  
 chemist can supply it. Sold also at Hong-  
 Kong and the Empire of China and other

### Intimation.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS  
OF THE  
FOOCHOW  
TEA IMPROVEMENT  
COMPANY, LTD.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE COMPANIES ORDINANCES OF THE COLONY OF HONGKONG, 1856, TO 1860 BY WHICH THE LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS IS LIMITED TO THE AMOUNT OF THEIR SHARES.

CAPITAL:—\$250,000, HONGKONG CURRENCY.

Divided into 5,000 Shares, of \$50 each, of which it is proposed to issue at present the sum of \$125,000 in 2,500 Shares of \$50 each, and the balance of \$125,000 in 2,500 Shares, as may be hereafter determined.

Of the 1,500 Shares now to be issued, 500 Shares, which will be fully paid up, will be taken by the vendors, in full payment of the properties, business, goodwill, machinery, and effects purchased from them by the Company, and the remaining 1,000 Shares are now offered to the Public.

Issue of \$100,000 in 2,000 Shares of \$50 each payable as follows:—

- \$10 per Share on application.
- \$5 per Share on allotment.
- \$10 per Share 3 months after allotment and the balance as thereafter required.

DIRECTORS.

GUSTAV THEODOR SIMONSEN, Esq., of Messrs. Simensen and Krohn, Foochow, Merchants.

ERNEST JOSEPH MOSS, Esq., of Messrs. Dowdell, Carillill & Co., Foochow, Merchants.

WILLIAM GRAHAM, Esq., of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Foochow, Merchants.

FICHAUD HENRY WALLACE FRASER, Esq., of Messrs. Fraser, Ramsay & Co., Foochow, Merchants.

MICHAEL GUERRE KISSELEV, Esq., of Messrs. Tokmitchoff, Molotkoff & Co., Foochow, Merchants.

LI YUEH YAN, of Foochow, Merchant.

HUANG PAI AN, of Foochow, Merchant.

SECRETARY.

WILLIAM PITCAIRN GALTON, Esq., Foochow, BANKERS.

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. DEACON & HASTINGS, Hongkong.

PROSPECTUS.

THE Company is being formed to acquire as a going concern the business of Tea Planters and Tea Merchants heretofore carried on by an Association called "The Foochow Tea Improvement Company," at Foochow and Pehling in the Fokkien Province of China.

Recent experiments in the manufacture of tea carried out by the Association at Pehling with the aid of Machinery have been attended with much success, inasmuch as teas of greatly improved character and quality have been produced, and it is therefore considered that the scale has now arrived when capital on a larger scale can be successfully employed in various parts of the Fokkien Province. In this connection, it should be stated that the Chinese Government officials have shown themselves favourably disposed towards the Company, and have expressed their intention to protect and assist it in every way.

The property to be acquired from the Association in consideration of the allotment of the 500 fully paid up shares comprises the good will of the business and all its Trade Marks and Chops, the Association's lands in the Fokkien Province of China with a Factory, house for the Chinese Manager, office, and dwelling quarters; also rolling mill, a sifting machine, and three new revolving work by a water wheel, 12 feet in diameter and 2 feet broad; also a Campbell's Oil Engine, 10 horse-power; and Davidson's Strocco, two Blacksmith's Fane, and one Davidson's Cutter; also 4,400 Withering Trays and Stands and Scales and requisite godown appliances; also a cash balance at the credit of the Association amounting to \$1,795.16. The land will be vested in two Chinese shareholders as Trustees for the Company.

The Chinese growers in the vicinity of the Factory have always been willing sellers of tea, and at such an ample supply is at all times available for exportation.

As regards the prospects of the financial success of the Company, the Directors would particularly draw attention to the advantage China now has over India and Ceylon in cheap silver; this fully compensates for the taxation which China tea has at present to bear. The cheapness of land, the low scale of wages, and the excellent quality of Chinese labour are likewise facts which cannot be overlooked.

The Machinery has been erected by and is in the hands of an English Engineer, who is the Company's Proprietor and Manager, and has for some years been in charge of a factory in India.

The Chinese Manager was recently sent to Ceylon by the Association, where he had practical experience in tea making.

It is proposed to take over the business as a going concern as from the 10th July, 1897, and to enlarge the existing factory at Pehling, and establish other factories in suitable districts.

The Contracts affecting the Company consist of an agreement dated the 10th day of October, 1897, made between the members of the Association, and the said Gustav Theodore Simonsen, Esq., and the balance of the Company of the other part, being the agents for the purchase of the properties, business, and premises to be taken over from the Association.

A copy of this contract can be seen at any Branch of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation or on application to the Secretary or the Company's Solicitors.

There are other arrangements and contracts in existence, the benefits and obligations of which are to be taken over by the Company, such as an agreement to give to the Chinese Manager a bonus of 5 per cent. on the Company's profits for the first year; contracts engaging clerks, servants, and employes, and other contracts. If such arrangements and contracts come within Section 17 of Ordinance No. 1 of 1877 of the Legislature of Hongkong, all applicants for shares shall be deemed to have waived the insertion of the dates and names of the parties to any such arrangements or contracts and to accept the above statement of the said contract in compliance with that section, and applications for shares will only be accepted subject to this statement.

Applications for shares should be forwarded, together with the amount payable on application, to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, Hongkong, or to either of its Branches in the East, or to its Branches at Antwerp, London, Lyons, Hamburg, New York, or San Francisco, or to its agents at Sydney or Melbourne, on or before the 31st day of December, 1897. After allotment is made the deposit will be returned by way of sanction and where the number of shares allotted is less than the number applied for, the surplus will be allotted in proportion to the amount payable on application.

Forms of application for Shares can be obtained from the Company's Secretary or Bankers.

It is intended to register the Company at once and copies of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company may be inspected on application to the Secretary or



